From: Morning Consult
To: lmartin@bakersfieldpd.us
Subject: Morning Consult Tech, Presented by the Electronic Payments Coalition: Apple Plans $1 Billion Austin Campus as Part of U.S. Expansion
Date: Thursday, December 13, 2018 6:10:54 AM

By Edward Graham

Throughout the year, Morning Consult has tracked how current events in the news have resonated with the electorate. Our new interactive reveals what broke through in 2018 - and what didn't. See it here.

Top Stories

- Apple Inc. said it plans to spend $1 billion on a new corporate campus in Austin, Texas that could create approximately 15,000 jobs. Apple also said that it plans to open offices in Seattle, San Diego and Culver City, Calif., adding more than 1,000 new employees in each location, and that it would also add hundreds of jobs in several cities, including New York and Boston, over the next three years. (The Wall Street Journal)

- California's Public Utilities Commission is considering a plan to tax text

messages to help increase funding for programs that make telecommunications services accessible to underserved residents in the state. The proposed surcharge, which would be a monthly fee based on cellphone bills that include any fees for text messaging services, will be voted on by the commission Jan. 10. (CNN)

- U.S. chipmaker Qualcomm Inc. persuaded the U.S. International Trade Commission to review a judge's recommendation in September that an import ban on iPhones that use Intel Corp. chips would hurt U.S. development of 5G technology. The commission, which said it would issue a final decision Feb. 19, will also review the judge's ruling that Apple infringed on one of three Qualcomm patents. (Bloomberg)

Chart Review

Lyft has eaten into Uber's U.S. market share, new data suggests
Recode

Events Calendar (All Times Local)

THURSDAY

Satellite Industry Association annual DOD commercial satcom workshop	7 a.m.
Axios event on the real-life impact of artificial intelligence	8 a.m.
Capitol Forum tech, media and telecom competition conference	11 a.m.

FCBA Engineering and Technical Committee event on wireless technologies operating above 95 GHz	12:15 p.m.
FCC's Communications Security, Reliability and Interoperability Council meeting	1 p.m.

FRIDAY

Cato Institute Surveillance Conference	9 a.m.
FCBA Mass Media Committee event on mass media coverage	12:15 p.m.

SPONSORED BY THE ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS COALITION

New Report Shows How the Durbin Amendment Failed Its Promise to Consumers

When the Durbin Amendment took effect seven years ago, retailers promised the measure's caps on debit interchange fees would help lower prices for consumers. Unfortunately, shoppers across the U.S. have yet to see the benefit at the checkout. The latest report from EPC compiles findings from over a dozen studies to look at how else the Durbin Amendment has failed, from lost rewards programs to less access to free checking. Read on to learn more.

General

Intel plans 'stacked' circuits in bid to regain its chipmaking lead
Stephen Nellis, Reuters

Intel Corp said on Wednesday that it has developed a way to stack its computing circuits on top of one another in a bid to regain the lead in chip manufacturing technology that it has lost to rivals like Taiwan Semiconductor Co Ltd in recent years.

Dr. Elon & Mr. Musk: Life Inside Tesla's Production Hell
Charles Duhigg, WIRED

The young Tesla engineer was excited. Ecstatic, in fact.

Congressional scorecard finds federal agencies improving on IT
Jacqueline Thomsen, The Hill

A new congressional scorecard released this week found that federal agencies are gradually improving in their use of information technology. The House Oversight and Government Reform committee unveiled its biannual Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA) scorecard on Tuesday, finding that 11 agencies had improved their scores on IT since May.

World's Top 50 Women In Tech 2018
Helen A. S. Popkin, Forbes

Many of the top technologists working in the world today are women - and they're unwilling to rest on their laurels. The 2018 World's Top 50 Women In Tech is rich with serial entrepreneurs who continue to hone their STEM skills, build businesses, promote innovation and mentor the next generation of change agents.

U.S. Futures, Europe Stocks Erase Gain; Bonds Rise: Markets Wrap
Todd White, Bloomberg

U.S. equity futures and European shares surrendered early gains as investors weighed the latest developments in America-China trade relations. The euro steadied and bonds climbed after the ECB was said to be lowering its inflation forecast for 2019 in an outlook due Thursday.

Intellectual Property and Antitrust

Qualcomm seeks China sales ban on iPhone XS and XR
Yuan Yang et al., Financial Times

Qualcomm is asking courts in China to ban sales of the latest iPhone XS and XR, after winning a preliminary injunction there against Apple's older models. The chipmaker is trying to put extra pressure on Apple in the hopes of forcing the iPhone maker into settlement talks, after claiming a key breakthrough in the two companies' multibillion-dollar legal battle over smartphone patents and royalties.

Facebook settles virtual reality lawsuit with ZeniMax over alleged theft of company secrets
Michelle Castillo, CNBC

Facebook and video game company ZeniMax have settled a lawsuit that claimed Facebook stole ZeniMax company secrets and technology for Facebook's Oculus virtual reality products. "We are pleased that a settlement has been reached and are fully satisfied by the outcome," ZeniMax chairman and CEO Robert Altman said in a statement.

Telecom, Wireless and TV

Inside Huawei's Secret HQ, China Is Shaping the Future
Mark Bergen, Bloomberg

The surprise arrest of Meng Wanzhou, chief financial officer of Huawei Technologies Co., has thrust the company into a political firestorm and deepened a core threat: that more and more countries will blacklist its switches, routers and phones out of growing concern that they could be hijacked by foreign spies. Yet inside Huawei's Shenzhen headquarters, a secretive group of engineers toil away heedless to such risks.

Rural broadband gets potential boost as Congress passes farm bill
Marguerite Reardon, CNET

The $867 billion farm bill that just passed the US House and Senate on Wednesday has provisions designed to spur broadband deployment. Though

the bulk of the spending in the bill will go toward subsidies for American farmers and support for programs to feed the poor, the bill also expands the Department of Agriculture's Rural Utilities Service loan and grant program and provides more oversight on how and where that money is spent.

Chinese state media urges Canada to defy U.S., free Huawei executive
David Stanway and Ryan Woo, Reuters

Canada should distance itself from U.S. "hegemonism" and grant unconditional freedom to Meng Wanzhou, a top executive of China's Huawei detained in Vancouver on Washington's request, state-owned tabloid Global Times said in a Thursday editorial. Meng, the chief financial officer of Huawei Technologies, has been accused by U.S. prosecutors of misleading banks about transactions linked to Iran, putting the banks at risk of violating sanctions.

FCC panel wants to tax Internet-using businesses and give the money to ISPs
Jon Brodkin, Ars Technica

A Federal Communications Commission advisory committee has proposed a new tax on Netflix, Google, Facebook, and many other businesses that require Internet access to operate. If adopted by states, the recommended tax would apply to subscription-based retail services that require Internet access, such as Netflix, and to advertising-supported services that use the Internet, such as Google and Facebook.

Mobile Technology and Social Media

Google CEO Sundar Pichai: Fears about artificial intelligence are 'very legitimate,' he says in Post interview
Tony Romm et al., The Washington Post

Google chief executive Sundar Pichai, head of one of the world's leading artificial intelligence companies, said in an interview this week that concerns about harmful applications of the technology are "very legitimate" - but the tech industry should be trusted to responsibly regulate its use. Speaking with The Washington Post on Tuesday afternoon, Pichai said that new AI tools - the backbone of such innovations as driverless cars and disease-detecting

algorithms - require companies to set ethical guardrails and think through how the technology can be abused.

Key U.S. senator calls self-driving legislation a 'long shot'
David Shepardson, Reuters

A landmark U.S. bill that would speed adoption of self-driving cars is now "a long shot" to pass before the current Congress adjourns in the coming weeks, a key Republican senator behind the legislation said. Many automaker lobbyists and congressional aides say the bill would face even tougher odds in 2019 when Democrats and Republicans will share control of Congress.

Amazon Won't Say It Doesn't Work With ICE
Davey Alba and Caroline O'Donovan, BuzzFeed News

Amazon once again declined to answer questions about whether it works with US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), even as civil rights concerns around the use of the tech giant's facial recognition tools by US law enforcement and government agencies continue to grow. Approached by BuzzFeed News after the subject came up during a hearing between Amazon policy representatives and New York City Council members Wednesday morning, Amazon would not say outright that the company does not work with ICE.

Apple now has dozens of doctors on staff, showing it's serious about health tech
Christina Farr, CNBC

Apple has dozens of medical doctors working across its various teams, say two people familiar with the company's hiring, showing how serious it is about health tech. The hires could help Apple win over doctors - potentially its harshest critics - as it seeks to develop and integrate health technologies into the Apple Watch, iPad and iPhone.

Cybersecurity and Privacy

Google and Facebook push back on Vietnam's sweeping cyber law
John Reed, Financial Times

Google, Facebook and other technology groups are urging Vietnam to scrap a

requirement that they store data in-country just days before a sweeping cyber security law comes into force, as Hanoi joins a global crackdown on the power of US internet giants. The companies, speaking through the Asia Internet Coalition, their regional lobby group, said the localisation requirement would stifle investment, harm economic growth and hurt foreign and Vietnamese companies with an online presence.

Top security officials issue stark warning of Chinese espionage efforts

Olivia Beavers, The Hill

Top security officials issued a stark warning about China's espionage efforts against the United States on Wednesday, labeling the country as one of the greatest global threats to the U.S. economy and national security. During a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing, federal representatives from the FBI, Department of Justice (DOJ), and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) said that while Russia is the threat currently looming in the public consciousness, China is the real long-term threat to watch.

Democratic senators have introduced a big new data privacy plan

Colin Lecher, The Verge

One day after Google CEO Sundar Pichai was questioned on data privacy during a House hearing, a group of 15 Democratic senators has proposed a new bill for protecting personal information online. The Data Care Act, proposed by Sen. Brian Schatz (D-HI) and more than a dozen co-sponsors, including Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) and Cory Booker (D-NJ), would create new rules around how companies that collect user data can handle that information.

Cyber pirates hack French foreign ministry webpage

Richard Lough, Reuters

Hackers have stolen data from a French foreign ministry website created for citizens traveling abroad, the ministry said on Thursday. The breach raises questions about the security of French government websites, though the ministry sought to reassure users that the stolen information was not highly sensitive and that Ariane site was safe to use.

A Message from the Electronic Payments Coalition:

Proponents of the Durbin Amendment to Dodd-Frank said it would be consumer friendly, allowing retailers to lower prices by saving on debit processing costs. Seven years later, consumers still haven't seen any savings stemming from the amendment's caps on interchange fees. How else has Durbin failed consumers? Read EPC's latest report compiling findings from over a dozen studies to learn how it contributed to lost rewards programs, less access to free checking, and more.

Opinions, Editorials and Perspectives

Washington must wake up to the abuse of software that kills
Josh Rogin, The Washington Post

Dictators are using spyware to persecute dissidents and journalists at an alarming rate, while the foreign firms that sell these tools assure the public that everything is just fine. It's time Washington policymakers and lawmakers rein in the proliferation and abuse of software that ends up killing innocent people.

You Should Have the Right to Sue Apple
Rebecca Kelly Slaughter, The New York Times

On Nov. 26, the Department of Justice argued before the Supreme Court in the case Apple v. Pepper, that the millions of us who have bought iPhone applications through Apple's App Store - the only way the company offers to buy an app for the device - are not really Apple's customers. Some app buyers allege that the App Store is an illegal monopoly and that Apple forces them to pay higher prices for apps than they would have paid in a competitive market.

Congress May Have Fallen for Facebook's Trap, but You Don't Have to.
Michal Kosinski, The New York Times

In recent weeks, Facebook confronted yet another privacy scandal, in light of leaked court documents suggesting that its staff discussed the idea of selling user data as long ago as 2012. Facebook's director of developer platforms and programs, Konstantinos Papamiltiadis, responded, "To be clear, Facebook has never sold anyone's data."

Google Visits the Resistance Factory
James Freeman, The Wall Street Journal

Some conservative readers may quarrel with today's headline on the grounds that Google is the resistance factory, given its left-leaning workforce and concerns about potential bias in the Alphabet unit's search results. But this column is referring to the House Judiciary Committee in the 116th Congress, which is expected to be chaired by Rep. Jerry Nadler (D., N.Y.)

Nefarious nations will take the lead on AI if the US doesn't
Thomas Vartanian, The Hill

As an op-ed in The Hill on Jan. 24 explained, the U.S. has no comprehensive national strategy to address the development and deployment of artificial intelligence. Since then, the Trump administration has held summits, published reports and even established a select committee of government officials to study it.

The Divide Between Silicon Valley and Washington Is a National-Security Threat
Amy Zegart and Kevin Childs, The Atlantic

A silent divide is weakening America's national security, and it has nothing to do with President Donald Trump or party polarization. It's the growing gulf between the tech community in Silicon Valley and the policy-making community in Washington.

Research Reports

Industry Cyber-Exposure Report
Rapid7 Inc.

Measuring the cost and concentration of weaknesses in the public-facing configuration of internet-connected services and metadata-defined as "exposure"-is increasingly important in the face of growing cybersecurity threats. Having an accurate view of the resiliency of organizations and industry sectors to withstand malicious cyber-actions can facilitate more accurate cost models, help target efforts to reduce exposure to those that need it most, and enhance cooperative efforts between government and the private sector to better protect users and companies alike.

This email was sent by: Morning Consult
729 15th St. NW Washington, DC, 20005, US
Manage your email preferences

SUBSCRIBE